

REMARKS

Remarks regarding the title:

The title is amended to more clearly identify the present invention.

Remarks regarding the claims:

Pending claims 10-14 and 25-41 are canceled without prejudice.

Claims directed to "soluble recombinant *Clostridium botulinum* toxin[s]" are fully supported by the specification. For example, these claims are supported by at least Example 31: Fermentation of Culture Cells Expressing Recombinant Botulinal Proteins (pages 215-221); Example 32: Construction Of A Folding Chaperone Overexpression System (page 221-222); and, Example 33: Growth Of BotA/pACYCGro Cell Lines In Fermentation Cultures (pages 222-225). The specific botulinum toxin serotypes, for example, botulinum toxin types A, B, C₁, D, E, F and G are fully supported by the specification. For example, such serotypes are supported at least by Examples 35 (page 227), 41 (page 244), 46 (page 253), 47 (page 255), 48 (257), and 49 (page 259).

Claims directed to "fusion protein[s]" are fully supported by the specification. For example, these claims are supported at least by Example 22: Construction And Expression Of C. *botulinum* C Fragment Fusion Proteins (page 169). The specific botulinum toxin serotypes, for example, botulinum toxin types A, B, C₁, D, E, F and G of the "fusion proteins" are fully supported by the specification. For example, such serotypes are supported at least by Examples 35 (page 227), 41 (page 244), 46 (page 253), 47 (page 255), 48 (257), and 49 (page 259).

Claims directed to "compositions" which are "substantially endotoxin-free" are fully supported by the specification. For example, these claims are supported at least by Example 24: Production Of Soluble C. *botulinum* C Fragment Protein Substantially Free Of Endotoxin Contamination (page 184). The specific botulinum toxin serotypes, for example, botulinum toxin types A, B, C₁, D, E, F and G of the "compositions" are fully supported by the specification. For example, such serotypes are supported at least by Examples 35 (page 227), 41 (page 244), 46 (page 253), 47 (page 255), 48 (257), and 49 (page 259).

Claims directed to "host cells" are fully supported by the specification. For example, these claims are supported at least by Example 22: Construction And Expression Of C. botulinum C Fragment Fusion Proteins (page 169, page 175 line 4-5).

Applicants submit that the new claims are fully supported by the specification, do not present any new matter and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is requested to enter this Amendment and allow the present claims. Should the Examiner have any requests or comments, applicants invite the Examiner to contact applicants' representative at the number listed below. The undersigned will contact the Examiner in the very near future to schedule a telephone interview to discuss these new claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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